

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates generally to compositions and methods for detecting target microorganisms in a sample. In particular, the present invention relates to compositions comprising a conditionally detectable maker and an enzyme substrate that provides detection of the target microorganism as well as methods of use thereof. With the invention disclosed herein, a widely applicable approach is revealed which utilizes a presumptive indicator for the target microorganism and non-target microorganisms capable of growth and detection in a medium followed by a confirmation indicator, which is substantially only reacted upon by the non-target microorganisms.

D:\NrPortbl\iManage\ROSIEP\210531_2.DOC\5